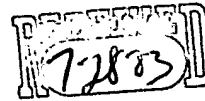


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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application Serial No.: 09/417,990
Filing Date: October 13, 1999
Inventors: Lovett et al.
Applicant: Microsoft Corporation
Group Art Unit: 2176
Examiner: Queler
Confirmation No.: 8254
Attorney's Docket No.: MS1-383US
Title: **Methods and Systems for Processing XML Documents**

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION DATED MAY 22, 2003**AMENDMENT**

To: MS: Non-Fee Amendment
 Commissioner for Patents
 P.O. Box 1450
 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

From: David S. Lee
 Lee & Hayes, PLLC

Sir:

In response to the Office Action of May 22, 2003, in connection with the above-identified application, the following amendments and remarks are submitted. Favorable consideration is respectfully requested.